

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Sept. 29, 2005**

**For More Information Contact**

**VDH 05-23**

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**MEDIA ADVISORY**

**WHAT:** Used Child Safety Seats to be Crushed by Monster Trucks

**WHEN:** Friday, Sept. 30, 2005 at 10 a.m.

**WHERE:** State Fair of Virginia, Richmond Raceway Complex in the Monster Truck Area

**WHO:** Statewide media outlets invited to cover the event.

The event is organized by the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) Center for Injury and Violence Prevention and Safety Angels with assistance from Henrico County Department of Fire and State Fair of Virginia officials. The used, old and broken child safety seats that will be crushed were collected by Hanover Department of Fire, New Kent Sheriff's Office, Chesterfield Police Department, Head Start and Chesterfield Towne Center.

**WHY:** Despite recall notices and warnings, many consumers continue to use child safety seats that have the potential to fail in the event of a crash. The goal is to alert Virginians to the hazards associated with using old, recalled or damaged safety seats. Child safety seats purchased at yard sales, consignment or thrift shops have no information about the history of the safety seat (i.e. crash history or storage conditions). The safety seat may have hidden damage. If the safety seat has been involved in a crash, it has done its job and must be replaced. This is also the case for safety seats loaned from friends and family members. The best safety seat to use is a new one. This event will ensure that the collected seats will never be used.

For more information about VDH's safety seat programs, visit [www.vahealth.org/civp/safetyseat/index.asp](http://www.vahealth.org/civp/safetyseat/index.asp).

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